

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: June 21, 2002

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on June 19, 2002

FROM: William E. Muno, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Thomas V. Skinner
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Removal Completion, Mi-Hi Site, Blackman Township, Michigan

On May 23, 2002, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 5 completed the removal action at the Mi-Hi site in Blackman Township, Jackson County, Michigan. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) characteristic waste in drums, totes, tanks, electrical equipment, machine pits, and in-ground pits; and, contaminated soils and debris have all been characterized, packaged and disposed off-site at permitted facilities. Recyclable metal items were cleaned and staged for recycling. Metallic mercury recovered from thermostats and switches was transported to a recycling center. Batteries were shipped to a recycler. No oil or hazardous waste remains on site. A final walk through was conducted with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) representatives, Township officials, AKT Inc. (consultant to the Township for Brownfields development), and officials of the local business interested in redevelopment of the site property. Control of the site was transferred to Blackman Township officials at the time of demobilization.

Contact: P.C. Lall (734-692-7685)

Oil Spill Response, Old Refugee Road, Columbus, Ohio

On June 10, 2002, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) P.C. Lall responded to an oil discharge from the outfalls of a storm water lift station located on Old Refugee Road in Franklin County, Columbus,

Ohio. The source of oil is unknown. The discharge was discovered by an Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) responder who notified U.S. EPA. The outfall discharges into an open ditch that flows into Kian Run, a tributary of the Scioto River. OSC P.C. Lall opened the Oil Pollution Act fund and a contractor was mobilized on June 10, 2002. Containment structures consisting of a dam and booms were constructed. Samples were taken from the outfall area and the lift station. The product in the ditch appears to be emulsified. Vacuuming of oil from the ditch and the lift station has been started. An investigation into the source is being conducted in conjunction with Ohio EPA and Columbus Water and Sewerage Department. TV surveillance of the storm water drains and a smoke test are planned by City storm water management personnel to identify the source.

Contact: P.C. Lall (734-692-7685)

Meeting, Dupont Road Site, Oregon, Ohio

On June 11, 2002, the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office (MSO) Toledo contacted On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) P.C. Lall and requested a meeting regarding oil seepage into a storm water system along Dupont Road in Oregon, Ohio. OSC P.C. Lall met with Coast Guard personnel on June 12, 2002, at the MSO Toledo offices and then toured the site with the Coast Guard. A history of oil release from the drain tile along Dupont Road was presented by the Coast Guard. Dupont Road runs between a Citgo oil storage facility, the Wolverine pipeline, and an electric company on one side of the road and a BP Oil refinery on the other side. Oil has been observed leaching into the storm sewer for many years and currently the Coast Guard has absorbent booms in place at several locations. Several monitoring wells and recovery wells have been installed by the companies along Dupont Road. The City of Oregon has hired a consultant to evaluate sub-surface soil contamination, and their report, dated June 4, 2002, has been provided to the Coast Guard. The site is situated in the Coast Guard area of response. Coast Guard MSO Toledo requested U.S. EPA's assistance in order to identify the source of storm water and soil contamination, and for remediation and enforcement actions. Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) inspections of the refinery and oil storage facilities along Dupont Road were requested as a starting point. The Coast Guard is going to send a letter to U.S. EPA outlining the background and requesting assistance.

Contact: P.C. Lall (734-692-7685)

Fox River Congressional Briefing, Washington, D.C.

On June 19, 2002, Tom Skinner, Bill Muno, and Jim Hahnenberg traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with the Wisconsin

Congressional delegation regarding the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) cleanup of the Fox River. Joining them at the briefing were Larry Reed and Larry Zaragoza from Headquarters. The State of Wisconsin participated by conference phone. The briefing was requested in a May 20, 2002, letter from Senators Feingold and Kohl and Congressmen Green and Petri. All four members were present at the briefing. We provided the members with background information on the PCB contamination in the Fox River, the current status of the cleanup (proposed plan issued and comments under review), and a timeline for completing the next steps in the Superfund remedial process. A major topic at the briefing was the cost and feasibility of a local disposal option (pipeline and dedicated disposal cell) that was included in the proposed plan for the Fox River NRDA/PCB Releases proposed National Priorities List site in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

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